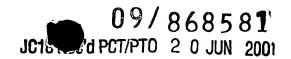
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFIC EL661264682US
DATE OF MAILING: 20 June 2001



#5A
PATENT PS

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER P32223

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE U.S. DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US) - ENTRY INTO NATIONAL STAGE UNDER 35 USC 371

INTERNATIONAL APP. NO.

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

PCT/GB99/04355

21 December 1999

21 December 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION

Process and Apparatus for Producing Particles Using a Supercritical Fluid

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/US

David Roy MERRIFIED, Christopher Edmund VALDER

Box PCT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: DO/US

PRELIMINARY AMEMDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to calculation of the filing fees and examination of the above noted application, entrance of the following remarks and amendments into the record is respectfully requested.

In the Claims:

Please delete claims 2 to 40.

Please amend the following claim:

1 (Amended).

A process for the production of particles of a material wherein:

a stream of a dispersion of the material in a solvent and a stream of a compressible fluid antisolvent substance are brought into contact with each other so that the streams combine to form a mixture under conditions such that the substance is in compressible fluid antisolvent state,

the mixture is then caused to flow along a conduit extending downstream from the region where the streams come into contact, toward an orifice which opens from the conduit directly into a downstream region so that the mixture flows through the orifice into the downstream region,

AI